

Cultural Realm :=>

Cultural types may be the variations in economic activities, social customs, traditional values, dress patterns, language and physical characteristics. On the basis of these variable various cultural realms have been identified, which are as follows —

> The Occidental Realm :=>

It is mainly the culture of European society influenced with Christianity. It has great regional variation according to the levels of industrialisation, political and economic thought, colonization, commercialisation, urbanisation, development of transport system, development of social, political and economic institutions. For some parts due to modernisation religious values are sidelined. The Occidental realm is further sub-divided into six sub-regions —

- i) West European
- ii) Continental "
- iii) Mediterranean European
- iv) Anglo American
- v) Australian
- vi) Latin American

i) West European : \Rightarrow It is most modernised, industrialized and developed cultural realm in the occidental realm.

ii) Continental European : \Rightarrow The realm is influenced by different political and economic thoughts. Christianity remains an important influence.

iii) Mediterranean European Culture : \Rightarrow It includes countries lying to the south of the Alps. This region is also Christian dominated. Here the deep rooted traditional-social system is the cause of limited economic development in some countries like Spain, Portugal and southern Italy, compared to countries of northern and western Europe which adopted necessary changes in their social system.

iv) The Anglo American Realm : \Rightarrow The cultural characteristics of N. America are fundamentally derived from Europe. The region is endowed with natural resources. British influence is quite significant in this region. Industrialisation and urbanisation is very high. Canada also comes under this realm. British influence is also seen in Canada.

v) Australian Cultural Realm : \Rightarrow This is also an offshoot of European cultural realm. The region has struck a balance between agriculture and industry. Living standard is very high and people are well educated, energetic and progressive. British influence is still seen in Australia and New-Zealand region.

vi) Latin American Cultural Realm : \Rightarrow It is very similar to Mediterranean culture. It is the only culture which lies in occidental realm but still it is backward. It became a part of occidental culture due to conversion of tribals into Christianity. The colonial languages of Spanish and Portuguese have become state language.

2) The Islamic Cultural Realm : \Rightarrow

Here the prominent religious faith is Islam or it is very much clear from its name. The area covered by this realm Morocco in the west to Pakistan in the east. This cultural realm lies between the traditional Indian culture in the east and the modernised European culture in the west. This culture is very based on traditional beliefs. These countries have very high per capita income but the levels of modernisation is very low.

3) The Indian Cultural Region : \Rightarrow B.

Baker called it a sub-continental realm. While Audrey Stump called it Paddy culture. It spread between Himalayas in the north to Indian Ocean in the south.

Hindukush mountain in the west to Bay of Bengal in the east. This cultural realm has some typical features like joint family system, caste system, strict feudal and relations, subsistence agriculture etc. Though the region is the land of various religious faith people but impact of Vedic culture values are clearly visible here.

4) The East Asian Cultural Realm: =>

This realm is basically a Buddhist culture with regional modification. South Korea, Japan, and other countries are part of this realm. These countries have also felt the impact of industrialisation, modernisation, and urbanisation.

5) The South East Asian Realm: =>

It is generally a traditional culture lying in a region where different cultures get intermingled: For example - Dominance of Buddhism can be seen in Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam. Dominance of Christianity in Philippines, influence of Indian culture in Indonesian Islands and influence of Islamic culture in Malay and Indonesian Islands can be seen.

6) The Negro American Realm: =>

It mainly includes tropical American region. Similar cultural systems are also observed in American and several tribes of Asia-Pacific region. Thus, it is a widely scattered cultural realm characterized by marginalised and relatively isolated communities.